Candidates Selected: Argentina

Dr. Carlos Alvarez. Dr. Alvarez is the Director of a well-known cardiovascular clinic in Buenos Aires. He is also a professor at the University of Buenos Aires Medical School, a member of the American College of Cardiology, and a technical and scientific advisor to Carlos Menen, the President of Argentina.

Dr. Alvarez has already consulted for the companies in lawsuits involving allegations of cardiovascular disease from ETS exposure. Clearly, he shares the industry's view on this issue. He also has considerable media experience. As far as English is concerned, he claims to read it well, but does not like to speak it. (We spoke in Spanish.)

Dr. Eduardo Gros. Dr. Gros is a Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of Buenos Aires. He recently spent five months at the National Institutes of Health (U.S.A.) doing research on "frog poison." He smokes. He thinks governments in Latin America should concentrate on ambient air pollution instead of indoor air contaminants. He is not shy about talking to the press. His English is good. He has a sense of humor, and would probably be easy to work with.

Chris Proctor has worked with Dr. Gros in the past, and recommends him.

Dr. Gros is interested in conducting measurements of ETS in buildings, but thinks he may lack some of the necessary equipment.

2503001508

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Dr. Osvaldo Fustinoni. Dr. Fustinoni, a physician, is President of the National Academy of Sciences of Buenos Aires. He presided over the Bariloche symposium. Apparently, he does not believe that ETS poses a major health risk.

Dr. Fustinoni would like to work with us in some capacity, but made it clear that he does not want any direct contact with the companies. Unfortunately, he must be at least eighty years old, and he does not speak any English (he told me he would need interpreters at conferences). But because he is clearly a moderate on the ETS issue, and is so well known and respected in Argentina, we should endeavor to send some work his way.

2503001509

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidates Not Selected: Argentina

Dr. Amilcar Arguelles. Dr. Arguelles is up in years, and my distinct impression is that he is past his prime. Furthermore, he does not enjoy good health, and cannot travel.

Dr. Lucas de Simone. I did not have the chance to speak with Dr. de Simone privately, because he invited seven of his colleagues from Tornu Hospital to our meeting. He appeared to be a moderate on the ETS issue, but his colleagues were less than enthusiastic about his working with us, and the impression I had was that he needed their approval. Also, I was not impressed with his facilities.

For now, I think we should play it safe and stick with Dr. Alvarez for the medical issues in Argentina.

2503001510

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidates Selected: Brazil

Dr. Antonio Horacio Miguel. Dr. Miguel is a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Sao Paulo. He is U.S.-educated (University of Illinois and Cal Tech) and speaks excellent English. He is a consultant for the American Chemical Society. He is already familiar with some of the literature on ETS. He has no problem appearing before the media. But he is very busy and does not have much time for us.

Dr. Miguel concentrates on ambient air pollution. He shares Dr. Gros' view that this is where Latin American governments should be focusing their energies.

Dr. Miguel is restricted by law from engaging in "unpublishable" research; that is, he cannot take on a long-term research project on behalf of the companies unless he is allowed to publish his results, favorable or not, in peer-review journals.

Dr. Francisco Radler de Aquino Neto; Dr. Jari Cardoso Nobrega. On the understanding that the local companies in Brazil wish to conduct ETS measurements in buildings and are particularly interested in recruiting chemists, and given Dr. Miguel's limited availability, I would recommend Drs. Neto and Nobrega. Drs. Neto and Nobrega are Professors of Chemistry at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, and together they operate a chemical research laboratory. I met with them together, and I cannot see how we could work with one and not the other. Fortunately, both appear qualified.

2503001511

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Neither expressed strong feelings either way on the ETS issue. Both simply feel that more research needs to be done. Both speak English pretty well. Both are foreign-educated (Europe and the U.S.A.).

My feeling is that Dr. Miguel was the best candidate in Brazil as far as chemists were concerned, but Drs. Neto and Nobrega could work out well also.

Dr. Celio Paula Motta. Dr. Motta is an epidemiologist and public health specialist. He is a member of the Society for Epidemiologic Research. He has read some of the literature on ETS. His English is good. He is not afraid of the press.

One problem with Dr. Motta is that he is at least eighty years old. But he appears to be healthy, and obviously is still active. His schedule has him outside of Brazil for much of the fall; he will be attending several international scientific conferences dealing with various communicable diseases.

I am not sure if Dr. Motta has an academic affiliation.

Since good epidemiologists in Brazil are hard to come by, we should give Dr. Motta a try.

2503001512

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidates Not Selected: Brazil

Dr. Morton Schienberg. Frankly, Dr. Schienberg struck me as unpredictable and more than a little strange. For example, he asked me to show him any notes that I had taken on the other candidates that I had interviewed.

More telling, his wife revealed to me while he took a telephone call that she and her husband despise cigarettes and do not let anyone smoke in their house or around them.

Dr. Luis Castiel. Dr. Castiel was not interested in anything except where I got his name.

2503001513

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidate Selected: Costa Rica

Dr. Maria del Rosario Alfaro. Dr. Alfaro is a Professor of Chemistry at the National University of Costa Rica. She is currently conducting research into the effects of ambient air pollution on street vendors in San Jose. She has given press conferences on air pollution issues.

She has a good presence, and her English is relatively good. She is clearly the best of the Costa Rican candidates whom I met. The local companies in Costa Rica are still looking for additional candidates.

2503001514

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidates Not Selected: Costa Rica

Dr. Alexis Rodriguez; Dr. Hernan Camacho Vindas. Both are chemists and professors at the University of Costa Rica's Center for Environmental Research. They did not receive me very well. They could not work with us without checking with their colleagues first. And they indicated that they would need substantial support from us in order to conduct any research.

As far as chemists are concerned, I think we have a much better candidate in Dra. Maria del Rosario Alfaro.

Dr. Carlos de Cespedes Vargas. Dr. Vargas was interested in theory, but did not believe he had the expertise and background to work with us. He offered to talk to colleagues specializing in cancer about my proposal, and said he would get back to me.

Carlos Manuel Rodriguez Echandi. Mr. Echandi is not a scientist, but a lawyer specializing in environmental law. He believes that laws in Costa Rica banning smoking in public places are properly based on the "right of non-smokers to breathe clean air," regardless of the science or lack thereof.

Arq. Mario Azofeifa Camacho. Mr. Camacho was not interested.

2503001515

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidate Selected: Ecuador

Dr. Alonso Armijos Luna. Dr. Luna, a cardiologist, is the Dean of the National University of Loja Medical School. He appeared to be objective on the ETS issue.

Unfortunately, Dr. Luna does not have a particularly good presence and, according to the local PMI company, is not well known. Ana Maria Molina (of the local PMI company) recommends that we hold off on working with him while she looks for better candidates. But, because it looks like we may have problems getting good people in Ecuador (given its small size and lack of qualified scientists), we should at least keep him in mind.

2503001516

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidate Not Selected: Ecuador

Dr. Rodrigo Alban Villalba. Dr. Villalba smokes, but not in front of his children or his patients because he believes ETS poses a hazard to them.

2503001517

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidates Selected: Venezuela

Dr. Bruno Burger. Dr. Burger is a Harvard-educated cardiologist who speaks excellent English. He teaches and conducts research at a prestigious teaching hospital in Caracas. According to the local companies, he is very well known in Venezuela, both as a cardiologist and as a TV announcer for automobile races.

Dr. Burger is also handsome and articulate. In many ways he seems the perfect candidate. It may be, however, that he has already been identified as a friend of the tobacco industry. He knows many of the people at the local companies, and the automobile races at which he announces are sponsored by the companies.

Dr. Eduardo Souchon. Dr. Souchon is a U.S.-educated oncologist who speaks English well. He is an ex-smoker. His father and brother are tobacco farmers. In his opinion, the smoking habit has been unfairly singled out for regulation. He believes that other variables, such as dietary factors, are at least as important as smoking as far as cancer risk is concerned.

Dr. Souchon is a friend of Dr. Burger and, like Dr. Burger, knows many of the people at the local companies. He is not as flashy and charismatic as Dr. Burger, but is clearly a strong candidate.

2503001518

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000

Candidate Not Selected: Venezuela

Dr. Oscar Aldrey. Dr. Aldrey believes that ETS is worse than mainstream smoke because it is not diluted by a filter.

2503001519

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nzwk0000